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INSECTS COLLECTED FROM KYK-SAGHYZ

IN 1943

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SUBJECT—

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FOREST INSECT
LABORATORY

INSECTS COLLECTED FROM KOK-SAGHYZ IN 1943

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In the spring of 1943 approximately 750 acres of land in various parts of the temperate zone of the United States were planted to the rubber-producing dandelion, Taraxacum kok-saghyz Rod. As this was a very large increase over the acreage of experimental nursery plantings made in 1942 this office was requested to be prepared to examine the planted areas if insects became abundant and advise control measures when necessary.

Fortunately there were no serious outbreaks in any of the plantations, even though a relatively large number of species of insects was collected during the course of the field season. However, at one time late in July the leafhopper populations in the western Minnesota plantings were reported to be assuming alarming numbers and the writer was asked to visit the areas and suggest adequate control or preventive measures. Apparently a change in the weather conditions prevented an increase to injurious proportions and at the end of the month when the fields were examined the damage was of little importance and spraying or dusting was not necessary.

With the exception of two species of aphids the insects collected in the Lake States were obtained by sweeping the plantation rows with an insect net or by hand-picking while weeding or gathering seed. Consequently it is very probable that a good many of the specimens were "visitors", resting perhaps or, as in the case of the small sweat bees, gather-

ing nectar from the flowers. Nevertheless some of the species - such as the tarnished plant bug and the leafhoppers - are serious agricultural pests. As in 1942 leafhoppers, particularly the aster leafhopper, Macrosteles divisus (Uhl.) were abundant and far outnumbered the other species collected. In addition to the insects collected in the Lake States two species were reported from Montana by Mr. J. C. Evenden, of the Couer d'Alene field station of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. These are included in the general compilation shown in this report. The flower thrips, Frankliniella tritici Fitch, was very abundant at Crookston, Minnesota early in August. It is capable of doing severe damage to flowers and buds but at that time no injury was reported. No injury to the seed has been reported up to the time this report was prepared.

For the purpose of a permanent record for future information the following tabular list of insects collected from kok-saghyz by order and habitat will be of some interest. A number of predators and parasites are also included. Of interest also, bearing out the suggestion made previously that many of the species were visitors, is the fact that the aster leafhopper and the false chinch bug were the only species collected in 1942 and 1943. It is very probable that most of the species collected in both years are of little economic importance. The warning is again made, however, that those species which are known to be agricultural or even weed pests are potentially dangerous and must be considered in future planting plans.

COLLECTED FROM FOLIAGE:

Homoptera

Cicadellidae (Leafhoppers)

Macrosteles divisus (Uhl.) Aster leafhopper.

Aceratagallia sanguinolenta (Prov.) Clover leafhopper.

Exitianus obscurinervis (Stal)

Ophiola cornicula (Marsh.)

Empoasca copula DeL.

Hemiptera (True bugs)

Miridae (Leaf bugs)

Adelphocoris lineolatus (Goeze)

Adelphocoris rapidus (Say)

Chlamydatus associatus (Uhl.)

Lygus pratensis (L.) Tarnished plant bug.

Lygus oblineatus (Say) Tarnished plant bug.

Lygus sp.

Lygaeidae (Chinch bugs)

Geocoris bullatus (Say)

Lygaeus kalmii Stal Small milkweed bug.

Nysius ericae (Schill.) False chinch bug. (Also reported from Montana)

Nysius grandis Baker

Saldidae (Shore bugs)

Pentacora ligata (Say)

Pentatomidae (Stink bugs)

Chlorochroa persimilis Horvath

Euschistus tristigmus luridus Dallas

Thyreocorinae (Negro bugs)

Galgupha sterrima Malloch

Lepidoptera (Moths and Butterflies)

Phalaenidae

Autographa sp.

Autographa sp.

Undetermined genus and species.

Undetermined genus and species.

Undetermined genus and species.

Olethreutidae

Oletheutes cespitana (Hbn.)

Phycitidae

Homoeosoma electellum (Hulst)

Pieridae

Colias sp. probably *eurytheme* Bdv. Alfalfa butterfly.

Pterophoridae

Undetermined genus and species.

Tortricidae

Undetermined genus and species.

Undetermined genus and species.

Coleoptera (Beetles)

Meloidae (Blister beetles)

Epicauta sericans Lac.

Chrysomelidae (Leaf beetles)

Psylliodes punctulatus Melsh. Hop flea beetle.

Disonycha triangularis (Say) Three-spotted flea beetle.

Disonycha xanthomelas (Dalm.)

Phyllotreta vittata (F.) Striped flea beetle.

Curculionidae (Weevils)

Ceutorhynchus americanus Buch.

Ceutorhynchus punctiger Gyll. (Reported from Montana)

Sitona cylindricollis Fahr.

Hymenoptera (Wasps, Bees, etc.)

Argidae (Sawflies)

Sterictiphora zabriskei (Wed. & Mal.)

Diptera (Flies)

Sapromyzidae

Camptoprosopella sp.

Anthomyiidae

Schoenomyza chrystoma Lw.

Hylemya cilicrura (Rond.) Seed corn maggot.

(These species in the larval stage may be root feeders)

Chloropidae

Oscinella coxendix (Fitch) Frit fly.

Ephydridae

Hydrina debilis (Lw.)

Orthoptera (Grasshoppers)

Acrididae

Melanoplus femur-rubrum (DeG.) Red-legged grasshopper.

Tetrigidae

Tetrix acadicum (Sc.)

Tetrix sp.

COLLECTED FROM FLOWERS:

Thysanoptera (The Thrips)

Frankliniella tritici (Fitch) The Flower thrips.

COLLECTED FROM ROOTS:

Homoptera

Aphiidae

Anuraphis sp. possibly persicae-niger (Smith)

Aphis maidis Fitch This species is one of several aphids known to cause leaf-mosaic diseases.

PREDATORS:

Hemiptera (True bugs)

Anthocoridae (The Flower bugs)

Orius insidiosus (Say)

Nabidae (The Damsel bugs)

Nabis ferus (Linn.)

Phymatidae (The Ambush bugs)

Phymata pennsylvanicus coloradensis Melin

Coleoptera (Beetles)

Coccinellidae (The Lady beetles)

Hippodamia 13-punctata (L.) Adult

Hippodamia sp. possibly 13-punctata (L.) Larva

Cicindellidae (The Tiger beetles)

Cicindela sp. near *lepida* Dej. Larva.

Carabidae (The Ground beetles)

Bembidion intermedium Kby.

Tachys incurva Say

Anthicidae

Anthicus cervinus Laf.

Diptera (Flies)

Syrphidae (Syrphid flies)

Sphaerophoria cylindrica (Say)

Mesogramma geminatum (Say)

Platychirus quadratus (Say)

Dolichopodidae (The long-legged flies)

Dolichopus sp.

Medetera sp.

Medetera sp.

Medetera sp.

Hymenoptera (Wasps, Bees, etc.)

Sphecidae

Oxybelus emarginatum Say

Neuroptera (The Ant-lions)

Hemerobiidae

Micromus subanticus (Wlk.)

Chrysopidae

Chrysopus sp.

Thysanoptera (The Thrips)

Aeolothrips fasciatus (L.)

PARASITES:

Hymenoptera (Wasps etc.)

Pteromalidae

Halticoptera aenea Walk.

Braconidae

Apanteles plathypenae Mues.

Dryinidae

Gonatopus sp. (Parasite of leafhoppers)

December 9, 1943